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National education

President H. M. Ershad on Monday announced that a national education commission will be formed soon, report ENA/BSS.

His announcement came in the form of a message readout by Education Minister Mahbubur Rahman at the biennial conference of the Non-government College Teachers Association at Shilpakala Academy on Monday morning.

The President was scheduled to inaugurate the conference but due to his indisposition he

Ershad urges all to work for academic peace

could not attend the conference.

In his message the President said the proposed education commission would recommend how to further develop education, maintain peace in the campus, create congenial education atmosphere, expansion of education and improve its quality.

The President said the commission would submit its recommendation to the government

for consideration, approval and implementation. The commission would be formed with representatives from the teachers of the non-government colleges also.

The President said there is no alternative to education in achieving self-reliance, and dignity and for this "my government is respectful to teachers" as they are the backbone of the education while the education is the backbone

of the nation.

He said in the meantime his government has taken certain steps for the welfare of the teachers and assured that further steps would be taken to remove the problems facing the teaching community, particularly non-government teachers.

He reminded the teachers of their responsibilities to build the boys with higher education so that they can lead the na-

commission soon

tion in future.

The President spoke of the condition presently obtaining in the educational arena and expressed his firm confidence that the overall academic atmosphere, expansion and development of education to a great extent could be attained if all, irrespective of opinions and affiliations, work in that direction.

President Ershad who is also the Chairman of Federation of Bangladesh Teachers Association

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tion, said he is one of them and look into their problems.

He said if we all put on planned efforts with honesty and spirit of tolerance, Inshallah the national endeavour for erradicating the curse of illiteracy would be successful and at the same time we could educate our children on the basis of their merit to prepare them for leadership on the coming days.

The President wished the conferences all success and said he is sorry for not being able to attend the conference.

Education Minister Mahbubur Rahman called upon all quarters to help the government in formulating a uniform and universal education systems.

Speaking as the special guest at the conference he said the attention given by the present government towards the improvement of education and welfare of the teaching community was unprecedented.

Mr. Mahbub said despite resources constraint, the government was spending Taka 700 crore annually for the welfare of teachers and Taka another 300 crore for the development and maintenance of educational institutions.

Describing President Ershad as the greatest friend and leader of the teachers, Mr. Mahbub said the government under the able leadership of President Ershad would do every thing possible to protect the right and privilege of teachers and their enhanced economic benefits in future.

Referring to the decision on increased benefits and salary supports to the non-government college teachers including medical allowances house rent and 70 per cent of their basic salary, the Education Minister asked the concerned officials to implement the decision with effect from July 1986 without any further delay.

Referring to the grievances of the non-government educational institutions and teachers, Mr. Mahbub said that the government was opposed to any kind of disparity and imbalance in the education system. He said the discrimination in the education system as a

result of the colonial subjugation would be replaced with a pragmatic and production-oriented system, suiting to the need and aspirations of an independent country.

The Education Minister said that the reports of the proposed education commission was expected to cover the entire education system from primary level to university level including madrash and technical education.

Presided over by the President of the association, Principal Shahidullah of Dhaka Borhanuddin College, the inaugural function was addressed, among others, by Prof. Kazi Faroque Vice President, and Prof. Munir Ahmed, General Secretary of the association.

Some ministers, Parliament Members and high officials of the Education Ministry were present on the occasion.

More than 2000 delegates, representing 15,000 teachers of 593 non-government colleges from all over the country are attending the conference with the main theme "teaching profession and national development".